

Call for Proposals: **Building a Place for History: 2016 NJ History and Historic Preservation Conference**

Help shape the 2016 NJ History and Historic Preservation Conference. Submit proposals for sessions and workshops by **November 23, 2015**.

Proposals are submitted online at:

<http://fs19.formsite.com/NJHT/2016CallforSessions/index.html>

When and Where

The 2016 event will be held June 8-9 at Seton Hall University in South Orange

- June 8 offers a choice of workshops (hands-on GIS training or a Park Service-led workshop on caring for collections) and an opening reception at the Thomas Edison National Historic Park. The workshops and opening reception require a separate registration and fee.
- June 9 is a full day conference beginning at 9 a.m. and includes plenary and breakout educational sessions, tours, workshops, lunch, a vendor marketplace, and closing reception.

Who Can Submit

A proposal may be submitted by an individual who is a moderator and/or speaker or submitted by an individual who is not participating but is willing to help coordinate the session or workshop. The conference planning committee will only review complete proposals that have written summaries and identified speakers.

Speaker Registration Policy

All conference speakers and moderators are required to register for the conference at a discounted rate of \$35 that includes the June 9 conference day activities only. Please share this information with your invited speakers. Any request for travel reimbursement must be included with the proposal. Only out-of-state travel requests will be considered for reimbursement.

Designing and Submitting Your Proposal

Proposals are submitted online at:

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Audience

The NJ History and Historic Preservation Conference attracts a broad audience of professionals, historic site and museum managers, historic preservation commission members, and more. The conference planning committee seeks to balance its program by offering educational sessions during each time slot of the day that target the following primary audiences:

- Architects seeking AIA continuing education credits
- Planners seeking AICP continuing education credits
- Landscape Architects seeking ASLA continuing education credits
- Cultural Resource Management professionals
- Archaeologists
- History and museum non-profit staff, board and volunteers
- Historic Preservation Commissions, CLG representatives, elected and appointed municipal and planning officials
- Historians
- History and historic preservation advocates
- Students and emerging professionals

Proposals that address topics of interest to more than one of the target audiences will be given preference by the selection committee.

Types of Proposals - Sessions

Sessions are 75 minutes in length and typically consist of a moderator and no more than 3 speakers, generally held in a classroom setting. The conference may offer 15-18 sessions of this type. If selected, the individual who proposed the session will be responsible for confirming speakers, creating the content of the session, and ensuring that the session is appropriately implemented. Each session will be assigned to a conference planning committee member to assist with organization and communication.

Session proposals must include:

Proposed title

Concise description of the session

Description of session format and audience engagement

Up to four key learning objectives

Target audiences

AV requirements

Contact information, short bio, credentials, headshot for moderator and each presenter

Types of Proposals - Workshops

Workshops are afternoon (2 hours 30 minutes) programs that provide practical skill development for the attendee. The conference may offer 1-2 workshops. Workshops incorporate lectures, hands-on experience, extensive interaction, and useful resources for participants. If selected, the individual who submitted the proposal will be responsible for confirming speakers, creating the content of the workshop, and ensuring that the workshop is appropriately implemented. Each session will be assigned to a conference planning committee member to assist with organization and communication.

Session proposals must include:

Proposed title

Concise description of the session

Description of session format and audience engagement

Up to four key learning objectives

Target audiences

Av requirements

Contact information, short bio, credentials, headshot for moderator and each presenter

Review Criteria

The selection committee gives preference to panels that offer a variety of perspectives, including case studies and speakers from varying community sizes and locations. Proposals should be educational and should not be a promotion of a product, service, organization or company.

In addition, the conference planning committee will consider:

- Overall quality of the proposed content;
- Timeliness and relevance to an important programmatic, technical, policy, or philosophical issue in the field;
- Description that accurately reflects the proposed content and articulates the educational goals;
- Clarity and completeness of the proposal;
- Well-defined focus of the topic and presentation;
- Presentation skills and knowledge level of the suggested speakers;
- Format and length appropriate to topic; and
- Creative design that encourages interaction among participants.

Incomplete proposals will not be considered.

Suggested Topics

History & Interpretation

- Conducting historical research online
- Photographing historic buildings, using historic images
- Interpreting military history
- Interpreting industrial sites
- Careers in public history, museum management and historic preservation
- Using technology to create new methods of interpretation

Cultural Resource Management

- Case studies and tips for identifying and evaluating resources, assessing effects and consulting with stakeholders and interested parties
- Applying the National Register criteria to post-WWII subdivisions.
- Understanding and evaluating agricultural building types
- Making cultural resource management relevant and accessible to the public

Heritage Tourism Development

- Roundtable discussion of visitor experience at historic sites and museums
- Examples of organizations that are successfully bucking the trend of declining visitation. What are they doing and how do NJ museums and sites compare? Strategies and techniques that can be emulated
- Examine how excellence and success can make it less likely for the public (and DMOs) to ignore history-focused attractions
- Advocating for stronger attention to heritage resources in tourism marketing

Historic Site Management and Audience Engagement

- Non-profit board development and capacity building
- Attracting and engaging members and volunteers
- Financial management and reporting requirements
- Models of alternative fundraising efforts
- Models of innovative stewardship and/or reuse of historic sites
- Collections and archives management and exhibiting
- Working with consultants and contractors on historic preservation projects
- Lessons learned from innovative planning documents for historic sites and/or history museums

- Examples of projects, programmatic or strategic planning processes and partnerships designed to engage diverse audiences
- Disaster Planning
- Risk Assessment/ Risk Management
- Sessions for small, volunteer-run historical societies & house museums:
 - Creating a nonprofit organization from scratch
 - Collection management: developing policies, organizing objects and archives, options for archiving software
 - Outreach through websites- best practices or tips or a case-study on how an organization went about a website redesign
 - Social media outreach: younger audiences, members and volunteers

Historic Architecture, Cultural Landscapes

- Preservation approaches that incorporate sustainable techniques
- Barrier-free access for historic buildings: upgrades, interior and exterior access, lifts/elevators, planning for, funding, and approvals.
- Lessons learned illustrating conservation and craftsmanship
- Case studies: LEED certification for historic preservation projects
- Balancing landscape design and architectural preservation

Local Preservation, Planning and Policy/Historic Preservation Commissions

- How to prevent "demolition by neglect" of protected historic properties
- Using design guidelines in decision-making for HPCs
- Using the *Preservation Briefs* to guide design decisions
- Lessons learned on endangered properties that have been saved
- Case studies of architectural design guidelines incorporated into redevelopment area plans
- Public policy impacts on planning and preservation
- Economics of preservation in the current climate
- Models for incorporating advocacy into local planning
- Preserving historic sites in ethnically diverse neighborhoods
- Case studies: how HPCs can address archaeology concerns